

James Francis Edward Stuart *R. Herman*

THE
1473 *bb-7*
PRETENDER'S
DECLARATION
ENGLISH'D

By Mr. *ASGILL*.

With a POSTSCRIPT before it,
in relation to Dr. *LESLEY*'s
Letter sent after it.



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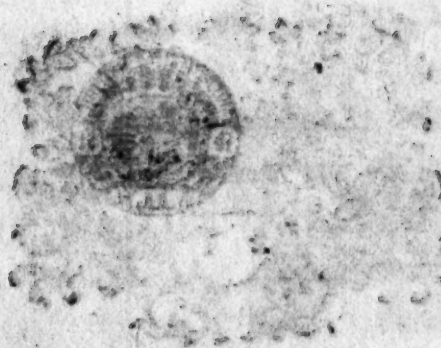
THE
FRIENDER

DECLARATION

OF

BY M. A. AGGILL

AND
J. A. AGGILL



THE
POSTSCRIPT.

BY this time I think I may write myself Author, as often as Caius Marius did himself Consul :

Septies Author fui.

And you must know that we Authors claim it as an undoubted Privilege, to dispose all the Parts of a Treatise, in what Precedency we please ; and by virtue of that Authority, I have (as you see) plac'd my Postscript in the Front.

Something like the Mayor of Gloucester, who holding a Pass, to read it, the wrong End upwards ; and being told so by the

poor Man that brought it, gave him a Box on the Ear, for interrupting him in the execution of his Office, by which he claim'd a Privilege, to read it at which End upward he pleas'd.

But that's nothing to this Business.

This Pretender's Declaration (as I understand) was originally drawn in Latin (perhaps done at Rome) from whence (as it seems) some English Copies have been landed and dispers'd here, which I will not contest but that they may be more literally translated from the Original than mine is: however, I publish my own, as genuine, to the Sense and Reason of it (according to my Understanding thereof).

But just as I had finish'd my Operation upon it, I had another Relation given me of a Letter (printed in the same Character with the Declaration) as written by Dr. Lesley, dated in April last, and directed to a Member of the Parliament as then sitting; but (by contrary Winds, and other Reasons of State) detain'd from coming ashore here, till some Posts after the landing of the said Declaration.

And

And indeed were it not for the April-
Date of it, both the Print and Contents
might have made it suspected as written
and printed with the Declaration, and cal-
culated to be sent after it, as a Supple-
ment or Postscript to it; containing divers
things material to be known, in order to in-
duce the Persons, to whom the Declaration
is directed, to embrace the same (of whom
I esteem my self intended as one, included
in the common Herd of Loving Sub-
jects.)

And tho I confess the Doctor's Addition
hath made but a shallow Impression upon my
stubborn Complection, yet perhaps it may
have better effect upon more lenitive Consti-
tutions.

And that it may not lose its due weight,
I have communicated the Nature thereof (as
related to me) viz.

v. That upon the Pretender's first Ac-
cession to his Great Seal (which, by the
Computation now us'd at Plumbers, is
about fourteen Years since) the Care of
the Church lying next his Heart, he had re-
solv'd to handsel his said Great Seal with a
Grant

Grant of Remittance of the First-Fruits and Tenths to the Clergy.

An early Thought for a Lad then of twelve Years old!

And keeping this Thought conceal'd for twelve Years time, till her late Majesty had (by Parliament) done that ready to his Hands, he then gave himself another quick Turn of Thought, by changing his Resolution of a Grant, into a Confirmation thereof: (which the Clergy may have at any time for fetching, under his Great Seal.)

And doubtless this would strengthen their Title:

For Bees-Wax is a mighty binding thing (to my knowledg.)

2. That the Pretender, while at St. Germain's, did admit of the Divine Service of the Church of England within the Court (of which the Doctor was one of his Chaplains) and had two Ministers of State of the same Persuasion:

Of which the Doctor is directed to give publick Notice by private Intelligence.

3. That

3. That the Doctor's Patron is already commenc'd such a Disputant, that in a Divinity-Lecture between him and his Chaplain, they had almost made Cross-Converts of one another. But the Chaplain advis'd his Patron (lest he should be twitted with Occasional Conformity) not to declare himself till he had got a Crown to his Great Seal.

Not to change his Religion without a Crown to boot.

But it seems it is now at last consulted and determin'd, That upon his Patron's Admittance to the Throne, he will admit of a publick Disputation, before him, by Divines of both Churches (of either of which the Doctor may be one) and as he shall be convinc'd, he will declare himself, that his Conversion may seem to proceed from Conviction, and not from Occasion.

By which his Subjects will have a fair Chance for a Popish King or a Protestant.

But after all this, the Doctor (as Amicus Curiae) hath given us his Opinion in Politicks, That the Protestant Religion will
be

be in less danger under a Popish King than under a Protestant one;

For that the latter, by the Confidence repos'd in him by his Subjects, may betray them;

But that a Popish King can never deceive them, because they won't believe him.

Not altogether unlike Bully-Dawson, who liv'd three Weeks on the Credit of a Brass Shilling, because no body would take it of him.

T H E

T H E
Pretender's Declaration.

To all Kings, Princes (Popes I should have said first) Cardinals, Archbishops, Dukes, Marquisses, Earls, Viscounts, Bishops, Barons, Baronets, Knights, Esquires, Merchants, Gentlemen, Farmers and Tradesmen (and our Loving Subjects) and all and every other Person and Persons, Bodies Politick and Corporate, as well Ecclesiastical as Lay, to whom these Presents, or any Part or Parcel thereof, shall come.

WHEREAS our last immediate Predecessor (except some Inter-regnants herein after nam'd) soon after his Accession to the Throne of the British Monarchy, by the Advice and Consent of the Pope's Legate, Father Petre, and some other honest Men (and one
B Woman)

Woman) had, in the space of four Years, made a hopeful Progress towards the total Subversion of that silly Idol of Republican People, call'd, *The Constitution of the Government in Church and State*, with pious Intentions thereby to have extirpated the damnable *Northern Heresy*, and to have introduc'd the *Papal Faith* in the room thereof, had he not been interrupted therein by the said Republican People; who, according to their way in former Reigns (when the Regnant had abdicated and renounc'd the Government, by refusing to hold the same according to the Laws of the Monarchy) sent Intelligence thereof to one *William Henry Nassau*, then Prince of *Orange*, therein inviting him to come to their Aid and Assistance, for rescuing their pretended Laws, Religion and Liberties from the said pious Intentions; who accepting the said Invitation, and coming to their Aid, and afterwards convening a Parliament, the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons thereupon assembled at *Westminster*, on *Feb. 13. 1688.*

(That

(That fatal Day of that fatal Year, to be blotted out of the Calendar of Time, as the Year of Jubilee, or Return of Liberty ;

—*Delenda Dies inimica Tyrannis.*)

Did then and there tender to the said William Prince of Orange, and Mary Princess of Orange, his Wife, then present in their proper Persons (She the next Lineal, and He the next Collateral, Protestant Heirs to the Crown) a certain Declaration in Writing, as a Bill of Rights, by the said Lords and Commons claim'd, demanded and insisted upon, as the antient and undoubted Rights and Liberties of the Subjects (and which had been violated by the said late King.) And subject thereunto the said Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, did tender the Crown and Royal Dignity of the Kingdoms of England, France and Ireland, and the Dominions thereunto belonging, unto the said Prince and Princess, who accepted the same accordingly ; and thereupon were declar'd, proclaim'd and crown'd

King and Queen. And by their Coronation-Oath did promise and swear to govern the People of England, and the Dominions thereunto belonging, according to the Statutes in Parliament agreed on, and the Laws and Customs of the same; and for maintaining the Protestant Reformed Religion establish'd by Law, and preserving the Rights and Privileges of the Church.

Against all which Republican Proceedings we hereby protest, as being in manifest Diminution and Derogation of the Prerogative of the Crown, by subjecting the same to Right and Reason, whereas we would have it without either.

And not content with admitting such Innovations upon the said Prerogative for their own time only, they the said *William* and *Mary*, during their own Reign, and since their Death the late Queen *Anne*, by several Acts of Parliament of *England* and *Scotland*, before the Union thereof, and other Acts since, have limited and settled the whole *British* Monarchy, according to the antient Laws and Right of each Kingdom,

dom, and made the same descendible to the Protestant Heirs only of the Royal Family, without taking any other Notice of us, or our Pretences, than by attainting and abjuring us for the same, as by the said several Acts of Settlement, and the Oaths of Allegiance and Abjuration from time to time taken by the Subjects pursuant therunto for twenty six Years past, do too notoriously appear, without our referring therunto.

And yet notwithstanding all and every the Premises aforesaid, towards the latter end of the Reign of the said late Queen, we were given to understand or misunderstand, (what no one else can believe) that her said late Majesty had entertain'd some gracious Inclinations in our Favour, for transmitting her Crown to us; either in her own Life-time, or by making her Demise thereof in such manner, as that we might have had 'a fair Chance at least) to have intercepted the Succession thereof to the House of *Hannover*. In

In dependance and expectance whereof we flatter'd our selves, and sat still during the residue of that Reign; leaving the Management of our Concerns therein, to our Trusty and Well-beloved Cousins and Counsellors (then encompassing the Throne) who from time to time, gave Us Intelligence thereof, and Encouragement therein, as aforesaid.

But now so it is, May it please you all to whom these Presents are directed, (or as many as will be pleased with our Disappointment herein after mention'd, which we fear will be the Majority) that our said Trusty and Well-beloved Cousins and Counsellors, by Combination and Disagreement between themselves (and divers other Persons, whose Names, till known, shall be concealed) either falsely or foolishly, did lose, and let slip through their Fingers, that natural and artificial Opportunity, of bringing us home to our own Parish.

As by the Secret History of the *White-Staff* (whether true or false) and to which for more Certainty (or Incertainty)

tainty) therein, we refer our selves (relation being thereunto had) may more or less appear.

And what proved a farther Mortification and Disappointment to us, when we had given Notice of our going to fight a Duel on the other side the Water, we were happily prevented by some of our best Friends.

And after all this, instead of expecting our Advent, our said loving Subjects, not having the Love or Fear of Us before their Eyes; but moved and induced by the Instigation of Sense and Reason, according to their said Oaths of Allegiance and Abjuration; immediately upon the Demise of the said late Queen, on *Sunday the first day of August 1714. (another fatal Day, in another fatal Year)* between the Hours of One and Three of the Clock in the Afternoon of the same Day, did solemnly and unanimously proclaim the most high and mighty Prince George, Elector of *Brunswick*, Duke of *Lunenburg*, *Hannover* and *Zell*, Arch-Treasurer of the Empire (*who had Dominions enough*

enough before of his own) to be lawful and rightful King of Great-Britain, France and Ireland, and all the Dominions and Territories thereunto belonging ; without any Saving for us, or our Pretences.

Since which the said King hath invaded his own Kingdoms with a *Standing-Army* of his Royal Issue, on whom the Crown is entailed (besides a Reserve thereof left behind to follow after) and a Pregnant-Princess for multiplying the same.

Whereby all former Hopes of our Pretences are cut off, unless speedily reliev'd in the Premises by you, to whom these Presents are directed, or some other well minded and charitably dispos'd People, who will adventure their Souls and Bodys to assist us in this important Conjunction of Extremity and Despair.

We therefore being at present weak in all outward Appearance, but of as good Mind and Understanding as can be expected of one in our Condition, do hereby publish and declare this our
 Royal

Royal Will and Testament, under our Great Seal, in manner and form following; that is to say,

Imprimis, To testify that we do not delight in War, we do hereby declare in our Conscience, that it is our gracious Inclinations, rather to enter into our Kingdoms peaceably and quietly, with no other Noise but ringing of Bells, than to hazard or fright ourselves or Subjects with Drums, Kettle-Drums or Trumpets, or any other Noises of War.

Wherefore for complying with our said gracious Inclinations, and for avoiding all Riots, Routs (and breaking Glass-Windows) which may happen in the Scuffle of the Exchange of Kings: We do hereby strictly charge and command all our loving Subjects forthwith, upon receipt hereof, without Fraud or farther Delay, to give or leave Notice in Writing to or for the said present King, at his Royal Palace at *St. James's*, by a certain Day, and under a certain Penalty therein to be limited and threaten'd, to avoid and

C

depart

depart his said Palace and Kingdoms with his *standing Army* aforesaid ; and upon Refusal thereof, to raise the *Posse* of the County of *Middlesex*, and expel him thereout by Rebellion, according to due Course of Law (for which this shall be your sufficient Warrant under our Great Seal.)

To the Intent that we our selves afterwards, in exchange for him, may, without Fear or Danger, make our publick and peaceable Entry into his said Kingdoms ; and the same have, hold, rule and oppress, in as full and ample manner, and to as good Uses, Intents and Purposes, as our said Predecessor did before us.

And for inducing all our said loving Subjects to make the said Exchange, we do hereby, under our said Great Seal, exemplify and set forth the several Comparisons following, by which we have, in our own Esteem, made our selves preferable to the present King ; that is to say,

Imprimis, That the present King was born in *Germany*, and is unacquainted with

with the Laws and Customs of these Kingdoms:

Whereas we our selves was born (once, if not twice) in our own Country, and continu'd there till our Age of eight Months, or thereabouts; by which we became early acquainted with the Genius of the People, and the Customs of the Country, and have been since educated in the Science of the Laws thereof; as *Magna Charta*, *Charta de Foresta*, the Statutes of *Westminster*, *Winchester*, *Gloucester*, *Merton*, *Marlborough* alias *Marlbridge*, *Rutland*, *Ragman*, and all other Laws and Statutes now in force; with the strictest Injunctions left us by our said Predecessor for observance thereof, in like manner as he did before us.

Item, That the said present King is an absolute Prince in his own Dominions in *Germany*, and hath executed the same with that Violence and Oppression, that his Subjects never complain'd of his Administration, but lamented his Departure from them with Tears,

Whereas were we exchange'd for him, we would be engag'd, under our said Great Seal, to give our Loving Subjects no such Causes of Lamentation at our Departure.

Item, That the Monarchy of Great Britain being augmented with the foreign Dominions, Forces and Alliances of the House of *Hannover*, will be too strong for holding the *Ballance* of Europe; according to that known Rule in the Mathematicks, *That the Center, upon which the Whole depends, ought to be weaker than any Parts thereof that hang upon it.*

Whereas we our selves, being free of the World, and no ways incumbred with Lands, Tenements, Goods or Chattels, shall be ready (at any time upon demand) to surrender that troublesome Office of *Clerk of the Market* to one of our next Neighbours, and to content our selves in instructing our Loving Subjects (and the *French Hugonots*) with wholesome Severities at home, without resisting any foreign Power.

Item,

Item, That tho we our selves (by suing in *Forma Pauperis*) should be non-suit, there may be wealthy and litigious Plaintiffs left behind to carry on the Cause :

Therefore 'tis as good for our Loving Subjects e'en to deliver their Purse to the first Demandant, lest any one else should take it from them.

And for Security of our Loving Subjects, in making the said Exchange, we do hereby promise and declare, under our said *Great Seal*, that on or before the first Day of the next Term, after the said Exchange, we will become bound in Recognizance to our selves, with sufficient Sureties of Aldermen of *London*, or Housekeepers in *Westminster*, for observing the Laws of the Kingdom, for the Space of six Months, or thereabouts (after our first Admission) in like manner as our said Predecessor did before us.

And for quieting the Minds of all our Loving Subjects from Fears, for Offences committed against us, and our Pretences in times past, we do farther

her promise and declare, under our said Great Seal, that (as soon as Counsel can well draw the same after the said Exchange) we will cause a general Indemnity (as good as any Act of Oblivion) to pass under our said Great Seal, for pardoning all Traitors, Murderers, Felons and Fugitives, and Felons of themselves, Fore-faulters, Fore-stallers, Fidlers, Fortune-Tellers, Prize-Fighters, Flesh-Eaters in Lent without Licence, and all other Offenders whatsoever, who have any ways acted contrary to Law (*with an Exception nevertheless of all such Persons who have acted according to Law.*)

And for quieting the Consciences of our Loving Subjects against Fears of forswearing themselves in making the said Exchange, we do by these our Letters-Covenantary, under our said Great Seal, covenant, promise and grant to and with each and every of them, their Heirs, Executors and Administrators, at any time after the said Exchange, at the request of the Person making the same, to cause and procure to be su'd forth and prosecuted, in
due

due Form of Priestcraft, out of the Court of *Rome*, one or more sufficient Bull or Bulls of Absolution, from all Perjury, or Misprision of Perjury, that may or can be committed in making the said Exchange ; with single or double Vouchers or Warrants for making the same good and effectual in all Courts of Conscience, and elsewhere, paying only reasonable Fees for the same.

But if after all these wholesome Prescriptions, friendly Admonitions and fair Proposals, our said Loving Subjects do continue both *blind* and *deaf*; we do hereby declare our Royal Will and Pleasure, *that they have lost two of their Senses.*

However, that we may not remain wanting to our selves, we shall not omit giving our selves such Names and Titles, on all occasions, 'as we think fit; not doubting, but continuing to call our selves King, will one time or other make us so.

Wherefore we have determin'd, every Year of our Life to add one Year to
our

our Reign, under our Great Seal, in
like manner as we have done by these
Presents.

Sent by Post from *Plombiers* the 29th
Day of *August*, 1714. being the
fourteenth Year since the first
Thought of our Heart ascended
into our Head, for remitting the
*First-Fruits and Tenth*s to the *Clergy*.

F I N I S